

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached new sheet for Figure 15 corresponds to Figure 15 filed with the provisional application of this application on April 4, 2003. No new matter is added.

Attachment: New Sheet

REMARKS

Claims 1-64 are pending in this application, claims 31-55 being withdrawn. By this Amendment, the specification and Figure 15 is added. The specification is amended for form, and Figure 15 is a formal drawing of the informal Figure 15 that was filed with the provisional application of this application on April 4, 2003, which was inadvertently omitted from the filing of the nonprovisional application on April 2, 2004. No new matter is added.

I. Claim 63 Satisfies the Requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, Second Paragraph

Claim 63 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. By the Amendment filed on August 28, 2008, claim 63 is amended responsive to the rejection, and thus satisfies the requirements of 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

II. The Claims Define Patentable Subject Matter

A. §102(e) Rejection Over Gremel

Claims 1-4 and 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) over Gremel et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,918,887) (hereinafter "Gremel"). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of at least the arguments filed in the August 28, 2008 Amendment, claims 1-4 and 12 are patentable over Gremel. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

B. Rejections Over Fahy

Claims 1-4, 10-12, 18, 56-58, 63 and 64 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) over Fahy (U.S. Patent No. 5,586,438); and claims 13-17 and 59-63 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Fahy and further in view of Sadri (U.S. Patent No. 5,494,822). The rejections are respectfully traversed.

In view of at least the arguments filed in the August 28, 2008 Amendment, the rejections are moot. Withdrawal of the rejections is thus respectfully requested.

C. §103(a) Rejection Over Barbera-Guillem

Claims 1-12, 18-30 and 56-58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Barbera-Guillem (U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2004/0029266). The rejection is respectfully traversed.

In view of at least the arguments filed in the August 28, 2008 Amendment, 1-12, 18-30 and 56-58 are patentable over Barbera-Guillem. Withdrawal of the rejection is thus respectfully requested.

III. Rejoinder of Withdrawn Claims

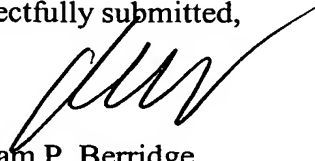
Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of withdrawn independent claim 31, upon the allowance of at least independent claim 1. Independent claim 31 include features similar to those recited in independent claim 1. Thus, upon allowance of claim 1, rejoinder and allowance of claim 31, and the claims depending therefrom, are respectfully requested. See MPEP §821.04.

IV. Conclusion

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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WPB:RBI/hjr

Attachment:

New Sheet (Figure 15)

Date: September 26, 2008

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